

CLAIMS

1. A casing scraper for cleaning the interior wall of a well casing, comprising a generally cylindrical body defining an uppermost end adapted for connection to a drill string and having a plurality of scraping or scouring elements disposed around the outer surface thereof for contacting the interior wall of the well casing and a bore extending through the cylindrical body, one end of which bore is adapted for connection to a source of cleaning fluid and the other end of which bore is connected to a tail pipe extending below the lowermost end of the cylindrical body, which tail pipe has at least one opening in it through which cleaning fluid may be circulated into the well casing, wherein the casing scraper further comprises filtration means located above the openings in the tail pipe and remotely operable means for selectively directing the flow of cleaning fluid from passing outside the filtration means to passing through the filtration means.

2. A casing scraper according to claim 1, wherein the filtration means is housed within the cylindrical body and forms an annulus around the bore extending therethrough.

3. A casing scraper according to claim 1, wherein the filtration means is housed separately from the cylindrical body, for example, on the tail pipe beneath the cylindrical body.

4. A casing scraper according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the means for selectively directing cleaning fluid to pass through the filtration means comprises a

radially expandable element which is engageable with the casing wall to prevent fluid flow around the periphery thereof, which rubber plug has flow apertures therein through which cleaning fluid can pass into the filtration means.

5 5. A casing scraper according to claim 4, wherein the said element comprises a rubber plug.

6. A casing scraper according to claim 4 or 5, wherein the element is annular and is mounted on the said tail pipe, above the apertures therein.

10 7. A casing scraper according to claim 4, 5 or 6, wherein radial expansion of the element is achieved by compressing it between two plates which are operatively moveable relative to one another to reduce the distance therebetween.

8. A casing scraper according to claim 7, wherein one of the said plates is mounted on the lower end of the cylindrical body and the other is mounted on the said tail pipe, and the tail pipe is able to move longitudinally within the bore extending through the cylindrical body to shorten the distance between the plates.

15 9. A casing scraper according to claim 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8, wherein the element is rotatable relative to the tail pipe.

10. A casing scraper according to claim 9, wherein bearings are provided between the element and the tail pipe.

20 11. A casing scraper according to any preceding claim, wherein the tail pipe is connected to the cylindrical body in such a way as to permit relative movement thereof on a longitudinal axis but to prevent relative rotational movement thereof.

12. A casing scraper according to claim 11, wherein a key is provided on the

tail pipe which is slidably within a longitudinally extending keyway in the cylindrical body, or vice versa.

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